

Protecting the Pledge of Allegiance



Congressman Burton discusses current issues and his work in Congress with Indiana students from Heritage Christian School.

On June 26, 2002, the Pledge of Allegiance was ruled "unconstitutional" by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Congressman Dan Burton immediately joined his colleagues in Congress to protect American values by supporting legislation (H. Res. 459) that declares the Pledge of Allegiance to be a vital part of American history. The freedom to recite the Pledge of Allegiance is an important part of our National identity, and it must be protected.



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

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*This mailing was prepared,
published and mailed at taxpayer
expense.*

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"Congress and the President have taken bold action to put a stop to the corruption that has overtaken corporate America and has endangered the financial future of millions of hard-working Americans. Together, we have created new laws and strengthened existing laws and regulations for corporate auditing and disclosure. We must hold accountable those corporate executives who knowingly participate in accounting and auditing improprieties and who mislead the public for their own personal gain."

-Congressman Dan Burton

Visit our website for more information at: www.house.gov/burton



Cutting Taxes for America's Families

"Let's give the American people what they deserve and make permanent the tax cuts of 2001." -Dan Burton

Last year President Bush signed into law one of the most comprehensive tax relief packages in history. The tax cut buoyed our Nation's economy in spite of the challenges of terrorism, corporate corruption, and a downturn in the stock market.

This is the time to make the tax cuts permanent, and not the time to play politics with an issue as important as the American economy.

If the tax cuts are allowed to expire, the United States will face the largest tax increase in U.S. history.

ALLOWING THE TAX CUTS TO EXPIRE WILL:

- Increase a typical American family's tax bill by almost 50 % or more
- Cut the child tax credit in half
- Reapply the marriage penalty to married couples
- Hit low-income taxpayers with a tax rate increase of 50%

MAKING THE TAX CUT PERMANENT WILL:

- Free up small businesses for job creation and increase economic growth
- Spur retirement savings and investment
- Keep family businesses in the family
- Keep money in the hands of hard-working taxpayers who earn it
- Encourage families to provide for their children through saving and investing



Fighting for a Prescription Drug Plan that Works

On June 28th, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act of 2002. This bill responds to the nationwide problem of out-of-control prescription drug costs by providing a voluntary, comprehensive prescription drug benefit for all seniors. Under our plan, for as little as \$35 a month seniors would be able to choose among plans to find what works best for their prescription drug needs. **And for our neediest seniors, our bill provides full coverage.**

This bill also makes needed changes to Medicare to ensure that beneficiaries will continue to have access to high quality healthcare. These changes include:

- Streamlined payments to doctors so that seniors can rest assured that doctors will be available to see them when they need care
- Reduced regulatory and paperwork burdens for both doctors and patients so that physicians can spend more time administering care

- Increased payments to community, rural and small urban hospitals
- Reduced co-payments for outpatient care

Prescription drug prices are rising dramatically each year, and it's time for Congress to offer relief for our seniors. I support a reasonable and workable prescription drug benefit that takes care of seniors in need, and protects the current Medicare system.



Providing for Our Defense and Homeland Security

Congressman Burton recently voted to approve the 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act, which funds the war on terrorism and provides increased resources for homeland security.

The bill seeks to improve homeland security by empowering law enforcement with the tools to track down terrorists, while safeguarding our aviation systems, nuclear assets, ports and borders.

The emergency supplemental bill includes \$28.9 billion to fund national security, defense, and other areas, including:

- \$14.5 billion for the Department of Defense to fund military operational costs, equipment needs, intelligence and training
- \$6.7 billion for homeland security, including transportation security, the U.S. Coast Guard, additional security for the nation's nuclear facilities, FBI funding to investigate and thwart further terrorist attacks, and additional law enforcement training
- \$175 million for the FBI for counter-terror activities including Information Technology enhancements
- \$3.85 billion for the new Transportation Security Administration



Attention Parents, Teachers, and Students

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) is conducting an essay contest for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. Several agriculture-related topics will be available for students to learn and write about. Winners will be recognized at the school, Congressional district, state, and national levels.

In addition, the "Young Patriots Essay Contest" asks students to submit an essay on the topic "What it means to be an American" and will be open to 10th, 11th, and 12th graders across the country. The contest will run from Labor Day to Election Day, 2002.

A state winner will be chosen from all essays received from Indiana entries. Five national finalists and an overall national winner will be determined from the 50 state winners. Contest winners will be announced in January, 2003.

Information for both of these contests will soon be available on my website.

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